Welcome to the ISAGE project:
UK regional meeting

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The Consortium

• iSAGE deals with the less developed livestock sector in the EU

• iSAGE has all the major players in small ruminant sector

Approximately 16,000 sheep and goat farmers (5.5 million sheep and goats)
iSAGE philosophy:

Farms | Farmer | Animal

Processors | Consumers | Policy makers

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iSAGE aims

- **Increase/improve** efficiency, profitability, overall sustainability and innovative capacity of the sector
- **Find** new efficiency traits of animals/more adapted to environmental changes
- **Increase/improve** animal welfare, social well-being and rural development
- **Increase/enhance** consumer acceptance, societal acceptance
- **Identify/implement** innovations and develop **policy recommendations**
What iSAGE did?

**Qualitative techniques**
- Case studies
- Semi structured and structured interviews
- Focus groups
- Laddering surveys

**Quantitative techniques**
- Farm level surveys
- **Recording impacts** of new innovations on farms
- **Modelling** expected climate impacts
- **Modelling** how management can improve ecology and productivity of farms
- **Assessing** the **genetic potential** of sheep and goat populations for **future breeding programmes**
- New decision support tools

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iSAGE main outputs

- 10 farm typologies were identified
- 225 farmer surveys were performed
- 202 farmers’ responses were analyzed
- 453 questionnaires for meat and dairy products consumers and non-consumers were analyzed.
- Interviews for retailer surveys
- Three case studies per country on selected supply chains
- New modelling methods to promote sustainability and resilience to climate change - Pasture productivity statistical model
- Implementation of innovation case studies in different countries
- Development of a toolbox
- Development and testing of a new iSAGE farm model
- Development and testing of iSAGE-DSS
iSAGE outputs are used to:

• **Understand barriers** to innovation and sustainability
• **Define future opportunities** for a competitive sheep and goat sector
• **Develop farm management tools** and innovative breeding strategies
• **Develop solutions** for social, welfare and consumer issues
• Work with industry to **inform, help** and **innovate**
Aim of iSAGE regional workshop

• Structured discussions
  – Trends in the Sheep and Goat sector
  – Strategies regarding consumers perception and acceptance of sheep and goat products
  – Biodiversity and landscape
  – On farm decision support tools
Thank you